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not serve, in a position in which an individual is required by law or regulation to hold a license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner's document, unless the individual holds a valid license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner's document, as appropriate, authorizing service in the capacity in which the individual is engaged or employed and the individual serves within any restrictions placed on the license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner's document.

[CGD 81-059, 54 FR 149, Jan. 4, 1989]

§ 15.405 Familiarity with vessel characteristics.

Each licensed, registered, or certificated individual must become familiar with the relevant characteristics of the vessel on which engaged prior to assuming his or her duties. As appropriate, these include but are not limited to: general arrangement of the vessel; maneuvering characteristics; proper operation of the installed navigation equipment; firefighting and life-saving equipment; stability and loading characteristics; emergency duties; and main propulsion and auxiliary machinery, including steering gear systems and controls.

§ 15.410 Licensed individuals for assistance towing vessels.

Every assistance towing vessel must be under the direction and control of a licensed individual authorized to engage in assistance towing under the provisions of 46 CFR 10.482.

[CGD 87-017, 53 FR 18562, May 24, 1988]

§ 15.415 Transportation Worker Identification Credential.

By September 25, 2008 a person may not employ or engage an individual, and an individual may not serve in a position in which an individual is required by law or regulation to hold an active License, Merchant Mariner Document (MMD), Certificate of Registry (COR), or STCW endorsement, unless the individual holds a valid Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC). All mariners holding an active License, MMD, COR or STCW endorsement issued by the Coast Guard must hold a valid TWIC issued by the

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Transportation Security Administration under 49 CFR part 1572.

[CG-2006-24196, 72 FR 3588, Jan. 25, 2007]

Subpart D—Manning Requirements; Inspected Vessels

§ 15.501 Certificate of inspection.

(a) The certificate of inspection (COI) issued by an Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection (OCMI), to a vessel required to be inspected under 46 U.S.C. 3301 specifies the minimum complement of officers and crew necessary for the safe operation of the vessel.

(b) The manning requirements for a particular vessel are determined by the OCMI after consideration of the applicable laws, the regulations in this part, and all other factors involved, such as: Emergency situations, size and type of vessel, installed equipment, proposed routes of operation including frequency of port calls, cargo carried, type of service in which employed, degree of automation, use of labor saving devices, and the organizational structure of the vessel.

[CGD 81-059, 52 FR 38652, Oct. 16, 1987, as amended at CGD 81-059, 54 FR 149, Jan. 4, 1989]

§ 15.505 Changes in the certificate of inspection.

All requests for changes in manning as indicated on the certificate of inspection must be made to the OCMI who last issued the certificate of inspection, unless the request is made in conjunction with an inspection for certification, in which case the request should be addressed to the OCMI conducting the inspection.

§ 15.510 Right of appeal.

Any person directly affected by a decision or action taken under this part, by or on behalf of the Coast Guard, may appeal therefrom in accordance with subpart 1.03 of this chapter.

[CGD 88-033, 54 FR 50380, Dec. 6, 1989]

§ 15.515 Compliance with certificate of inspection.

(a) Except as provided by § 15.725, no vessel may be operated unless it has in

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its service and on board, the complement required by the certificate of inspection.

(b) Any vessel subject to inspection under 46 U.S.C. 3301 must, while on a voyage, be under the direction and control of an individual who holds an appropriate license issued by the Coast Guard. For the purposes of this paragraph:

(1) A voyage is the period of time necessary to transit from the port of departure to the final port of arrival.

(2) A port does not include an Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) facility as defined in 33 CFR part 140.

[CGD 81-059, 52 FR 38652, Oct. 16, 1987, as amended at USCG-2004-18884, 69 FR 58343, Sept. 30, 2004]

§ 15.520 Mobile offshore drilling units.

(a) The requirements in this section for mobile offshore drilling units (MODUs) supplement other requirements in this part.

(b) The OCMI determines the minimum number of licensed individuals and crew (including lifeboatmen) required for the safe operation of inspected MODUs. In addition to other factors listed in this part, the specialized nature of the MODU is considered in determining the specific manning levels.

(c) A license as offshore installation manager (OIM), barge supervisor (BS), or ballast control operator (BCO) authorizes service only on MODUs. A license or endorsement as OIM is restricted to the MODU type and mode of operation specified on the license.

(d) A self-propelled MODU other than a drillship must be under the command of an individual who holds a license as master endorsed as OIM.

(e) A drillship must be under the command of an individual who holds a license as master. When a drillship is on location, the individual in command must hold a license as master endorsed as OIM.

(f) A non-self-propelled MODU must be under the command of an individual who holds a license or endorsement as OIM.

(g) An individual serving as mate on a self-propelled surface unit other than a drillship must hold an appropriate license as mate and an endorsement as

BS or BCO. An individual holding a license or endorsement as barge supervisor or ballast control operator may be substituted for a required mate when a self-propelled surface unit other than a drillship is on location or under tow, under certain circumstances as determined by the cognizant OCMI.

(h) An individual holding a license or endorsement as barge supervisor is required on a non-self-propelled surface unit other than a drillship.

(i) An individual holding a license or endorsement as barge supervisor may serve as ballast control operator.

(j) The OCMI issuing the MODU's certificate of inspection may authorize the substitution of chief or assistant engineer (MODU) for chief or assistant engineer, respectively, on self-propelled or propulsion assisted surface units, except drillships. The OCMI may also authorize the substitution of assistant engineer (MODU) for assistant engineer on drillships.

(k) Requirements in this part concerning radar observers do not apply to non-self-propelled MODUs.

(l) A surface mobile offshore drilling unit underway or on location, when afloat and equipped with a ballast control room, must have that ballast control room manned by an individual holding a license or endorsement authorizing service as ballast control operator.

[CGD 81-059a, 55 FR 14805, Apr. 18, 1990]

§ 15.525 Reference to other parts.

Parts 31 and 35 of this chapter contain additional manning requirements applicable to tank vessels.

§ 15.530 Large passenger vessels.

(a) The definition of terms used in this section is the same as §12.40-3 of this subchapter.

(b) The owner or operator of a U.S.-flag large passenger vessel must ensure that any non-resident alien holding a Coast Guard-issued merchant mariner's document described in subpart 12.40 of this subchapter is provided the rights, protections, and benefits of the International Labor Organization's Merchant Shipping (Minimum Standards) Convention of 1976.

(c) On U.S.-flag large passenger vessels, non-resident aliens holding a